

April 2014

Volume 72, Number 4

SAINT PAUL'S EPISTLE



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

371 Wolcott Hill Road,
Wethersfield, CT 06109
www.stpaulswethersfield.org
(860) 529-5397

MINISTRY LEADERSHIP & STAFF SUPPORT

PASTOR

Rev. Hugh R. B. Haffenreffer
Office: (860) 529-5397
Cell Phone: (860) 966-7360
pastorh@stpaulswethersfield.org

OFFICE MANAGER

Karen Landry
karen@stpaulswethersfield.org

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Brian Beckwith
rbbeckwith55@gmail.com

COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

Debbie Viola
debviola@stpaulswethersfield.org

COUNCIL SECRETARY

Debbie Howe

TREASURER

Roy Lewis
roy@roylewiscpa.com

FINANCIAL SECRETARY/

BOOKKEEPER

Mary Procyk
mprocyk@stpaulswethersfield.org

MINISTER OF MUSIC

Melissa Cheyney

SUPERINTENDENT OF SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

Cathy Evans

EASTER: WHAT EXACTLY ARE WE CELEBRATING?

I'm not sure most of us, including myself, fully appreciate Easter. Sometimes I feel as if trying to maintain the integrity of Easter in the public square is a losing battle. Like Christmas, Easter has been hijacked by our free market economy and turned into another opportunity to get people to buy stuff. Even before the start of Lent, Easter bunnies and candy were popping up in food and drug stores all over the place. (It's a wonder—and a *blessing*—they aren't piping in cheesy Muzak versions of, "Jesus Christ is Risen Today!" or other Easter hymn favorites wherever we shop.)

Don't get me wrong, I love the fact that spring is supposed to be arriving any day now. And I love when Easter coincides with warmer days and the flush of spring growth. It is almost hard-wired into our DNA (assuming we are living north of the equator) to want to celebrate springtime. But . . . (and I know I may be sounding a bit like a buzzkill) . . . that's not *Easter*. Or, more to the point, that's not what the Resurrection of our Lord is all about. If we lived, say, in South America, where it is fast approach winter, would celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus *suffer* because of snow? Not when we understand what we are actually celebrating. And not when we understand the fact that we can't fully celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus on Easter Day without coming to terms with his death on Good Friday.

Easter celebrates not the arrival of spring, but the promise of a new life. The resurrection of Jesus is completely and irrevocably connected, *fused* to the death of Jesus. The proclamation, "The Lord is risen," is, for us sinners, like a "not guilty" verdict for a criminal; or better, like a stay of execution *and* a full pardon for a convicted murderer. It is fundamentally unjust and undeserved. It is light that shines out of the darkness. It is life that comes to us *out of death*. And the sheer miracle of that Easter proclamation is likely lost on us if we have taken a short cut to Easter Sunday and not previously journeyed with our Lord to Gol-gatha, to his crucifixion on Friday. A mountain peak is only tall in reference to the valley below. Life becomes acutely precious when understood in reference to its fragility and the reality of death. The priceless value of Jesus Resurrection becomes a free (and *freeing*) gift to us only because of the costly sacrifice that made it all possible. That, it seems to me, is worth celebrating!

Pastor Hugh

WORSHIP SCHEDULE: Sundays at 8 and 10:30 AM

LENT and EASTER OPPORTUNITIES

Lenten Journey: Portraits of Jesus

Sunday, April 6 at 12:15 PM

Wednesdays, April 2 and 9 at 10:00 AM

Wednesday Evenings (through April 9th)

Soup and Salad: 5:30 PM

Evening Prayer: 7 PM

Maundy Thursday Service: April 17 at 7 PM

Good Friday Service: April 18 at 7 PM

Easter Egg Hunt: Saturday, April 19 at 10 AM

Easter Sunday, April 20:

Worship at 8:00 and 10:30 AM

Easter Breakfast from 8:30 AM

PASSION HISTORY READING ON PALM SUNDAY

Part of our Palm Sunday service has included, for many years, the reading of the Passion History. At the late service, this reading has been done by members of the congregation and, last year, by our confirmation class.

At this year's 9:30 a.m. service on Palm Sunday, April 13th, I am especially inviting persons who normally attend the early service to participate with us in the reading of the Passion History according to Matthew. It will save me a lot of telephoning if you (adults and young people) would give me a call or e-mail me to be a part of the reading. Copies are available at the church a week or two in advance.

The cast includes the Narrator (the main reader), Jesus, Peter, Judas, Pilate (all major parts), and Witness, High Priest, and Servant (minor parts). Thank you all for considering to volunteer.

Lillian Doerschler

860-529-1939

E-mail: lbode@gmail.com

AN INVITATION FROM THE ALTAR GUILD

During worship, at the time of the Great Thanksgiving, the congregation exchanges these familiar words:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

During each worship service, through communion, we have the opportunity to receive the forgiveness of sins and the promise of life everlasting. Each week an Altar Guild team is responsible for the preparation of the Altar for the Eucharist. Currently we have nine members making up six teams that are on rotation, and we are seeking other parishioners to help setup for this very meaningful part of our service.

Please reflect on the words above, which are spoken before communion, and consider being an important member of the Altar Guild.

If you have any questions about serving, you can leave your name and phone number with the office or call me at home.

Deb Howe

860-529-8583

Thanks be to God . . . and to those who serve!

EASTER BREAKFAST

We will once again have our annual Easter Breakfast Easter Sunday, April 20, 8:30 am – 10:30 am

Monetary donations will be accepted.

If anyone is interested in helping with set-up, cooking or clean-up please see Brian Beckwith or Deb Viola.

There will be a sign up sheet in the fellowship. Please sign up if you plan on attending.

NEWS & NOTES

WOMEN OF THE ELCA SPRING GATHERING 2014 GREATER HARTFORD, CENTRAL & EASTERN CONNECTICUT CONFERENCES

When: May 3, 2014, 8:45 - 2:30 pm

Where: Zion Lutheran Church, 531 Woodruff St., Southington, CT

Theme: Laughter in the Lord!

Coffee and registering is at 8:45 am followed by opening devotions, workshops, a luncheon, and ending with worship in the church proper.

Please plan to attend. You will experience a wonderful day.

Any questions please call Winnie Sawrun 860-529-7588.

FOODSHARE'S WALK AGAINST HUNGER - MAY 4TH, 2014

Foodshare's *Walk Against Hunger* is a sure sign of the arrival of the month of May. This year, for the 31st time, on May 4th, it will again help to fight off hunger in our communities. The needs in central Connecticut include 50,000 children and 10,000 seniors out of a total of 128,000 needy people. We hope to meet the goal of \$650,000 to continue this effort. For a 2 mile walk around Bushnell Park and Asylum Hill on what has usually been a beautiful Sunday afternoon you can help to reach or even surpass the goal. Join people of all ages and backgrounds in this war to beat hunger, which is a formidable enemy, even here in Wethersfield. Go to www.foodshare.org and the Walk Against Hunger link to follow the easy signup procedure.

Thanks

The Outreach Committee

EASTER MEMORIAL GARDEN

If you wish to purchase a plant for Easter Sunday, plants will be \$12.00 each. Please have your order into the church office by April 6th, and indicate if you would like to keep your plant or wish to have it delivered to a church member in need of some cheer. Payment should be into the church office by April 13th.

2014 Easter Memorial Garden - Easter Lilly Order Form

Given in memory of: _____

Please print name(s) exactly as you want it (them) to appear

Given by: _____

Please print name(s) exactly as you want it (them) to appear

Amount \$ _____ (Note: cost per plant is \$12)

Checks should be made to the order of **St. Paul's Lutheran Church**



etcetera...

ST. PAUL'S GIVING TREE

Our Giving Tree focus for the month of April is Office Supplies. This focus includes things like the printing of our monthly Epistle, paper, computer and printer supplies, postage, telephone charges, and other utility charges. Please consider making a donation towards these items.

Giving Tree envelopes have been placed in the pews in church to make it easier to place in the offering plate during Sunday Worship.

As always, the Giving Tree remains in the Fellowship Hall with many leaves to choose that include other areas of our Ministry that will be a focus in the upcoming months. Any amount will be greatly appreciated! THANK YOU!!

If you have any questions, please give Sue Agne a call (860-563-0776).



A SPECIAL EASTER SUNDAY

We need your assistance in decorating the large cross in the sanctuary on Easter Morning. Each Family is invited to bring in a single fresh flower to place on the cross. With everyone's contribution, our Lenten Cross will be transformed into a beautiful Easter Cross, symbolizing our Lord's resurrection—the triumph of new life over death—that we celebrate on Easter.

Mark your calendar as a reminder and join us in our annual Easter tradition. For information, talk to Jan Pergande.

CHURCH



CHAPTERS

St. Paul's Book Club will meet on Tuesday, April 8th to discuss the book, *Finding David* by Wethersfield author Mark Granato. This is a change in title from our previously chosen because of book availability. Our discussions are very informal and our meetings are filled with shared thoughts and fun conversations. Consider joining us and giving St. Paul's book club a try!! Books are made available for check out at the Wethersfield Public Library a few weeks before our meeting. We will meet this month at Sue Agne's home at 6:30 pm on the 8th. Please give Sue a call if you can make it. We would love to have you come!

Our May meeting will be held on May 13th at the home of Carole Hughes. Save the date!! Title to be announced soon!

SPRING MOM2MOM/CHILDREN'S TAG SALE

WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH FROM 9 AM TO 1 PM ****NOTE** NEW DATE!!!!**

Our Spring Mom2Mom/Children's Tag Sale will be held on Saturday, April 26th. We still have room for more sellers. Please share our flyer (available in fellowship hall) with your family and friends. We also need volunteers to help with setup on Friday (day and/or evening), day of event tasks such as, St. Paul's table, food sales, large equipment area, and clean up.

Please contact Cathy Evans for more details. 860-478-6918 cathyfevans@hotmail.com.

Not familiar with a Mom2Mom/Children's Tag Sale? Here is how it works: Moms can rent a table to sell their new and gently used items pertaining to maternity, infant through preteen clothes, toys, and miscellaneous to other moms, dads, grandparents from the general public. Shoppers can get a wide variety of clothes, toys, equipment and miscellaneous at a fraction of the cost of retail. New items from specialty vendors, also, such as, taggie blankets, tutus, hair bows, crayon wraps, baby carriers and much more are also sold. A Large Item Area is a great place for moms and dads to compare the condition, price and benefits of multiple similar items from strollers, high chairs, pack n' plays and more that they need for a new baby and growing families.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 19th, 10:00 a.m.

Rain or Shine

Pre-K through Grade 5

Meet in Fellowship Hall. Bring your own basket to collect candy filled eggs!

We are accepting candy donations! Please make sure candy is small enough to fit in plastic Easter eggs. Donations can be placed in donation box in Fellowship Hall.

Thank you Wendy Weston, Margaret DeBlois and Aileen Casey for coordinating this year's event!



St. Paul's MEMBERS IN SERVICE for April 2014

ACOLYTES:

April 6	- Collin Grottke	
13	- Evan Bernard	9:30 AM
17	- Arden Adamo	7:00 PM
	<i>Maundy Thurs.</i>	
18	- Cameron Cheyney	7:00 PM
	<i>Good Fri.</i>	
20	- Bryce Gentino	8:00 AM
	<i>Easter</i>	
20	- Celia Cheyney	10:30 AM
	<i>Easter</i>	
27	- Megan Creevy	

ALTAR GUILD:

Debbie Howe, Coordinator, 860-529-8583

April 6	- Bob Bowman & Bill Fischer, Jr.	
13	- Patty Bengtson	9:30 AM
17	- Jennie Dotts, Deb Howe & William Fischer, Jr.	7:00 PM
18	- Deb Howe	7:00 PM
20	- Tracy Newmark & Deb Howe	8:00 AM
20	- Winne Sawrun	10:30 AM
27	- Deb Howe & Donna Camillo	

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

April 6	- Debbie Viola	8:00 AM
	- Jerry Valliancourt	10:30 AM
13	- Jim NewMark	9:30 PM
17	- William Fischer, Jr.	7:00 PM
20	- Art Bruce	8:00 AM
	- William Fischer, Jr.	10:30 AM
27	- Jim Newmark	8:00 AM
	- Jerry Valliancourt	10:30 AM

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

Sue Agne, Coordinator, 860-563-0776

April 6	- Joan Kratzer	
13	- Mary Procyk	Special time: 9:30 AM
17	- Sue Agne	<i>Maundy Thurs.</i> 7:00 PM
20	- Carole Hughes	<i>Easter</i> 8:00 AM
20	- Sue Agne	<i>Easter</i> 10:30 AM
27	- Lillian Doerschler	

TAPING:

Jan Pergande, Coordinator, 860-644-2888

April - Jan Pergande

FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS:

Winnie Sawrun, Coordinator, 860-529-7588

April 6	- Andrew & LeAnn Power	
13	- Carol & Art Bruce	
20	- Easter Breakfast	
27	- Patrica Granger & Alan Niederfringer	

FINANCE:

Mary Procyk, Coordinator, 860-257-4793

April 6	- Debbie Viola	
13	- George Howe	
17	- Mary Procyk	
18	- Mary Procyk	
20	- Debbie Viola	
27	- Kathy DiMartino	

LECTORS:

Lillian Doerschler, Coordinator, 860-529-1939

April 6	- Dave Bayek	
13	- George Howe	Palm Sunday 9:30 AM
17	- Judy Gerken	Holy Thursday 7:00 PM
18	- Patty Bengtson	Good Friday 7:00 PM
20	- Art Bruce	Easter 8:00 AM
20	- Vicki Anderson	Easter 10:30 AM
27	- Mary Procyk	

USHERS:

Brian Beckwith, Coordinator; 8:00 AM, 860-563-4066

April - Brian Beckwith

Louise Lostocco, Coordinator, 10:30 AM, 860-529-3079

April 6	- Mark Olson & William Fischer Sr.	
13	- Bryce Gentino & Max Gentino	9:30 AM
17	- Mark Olson & tbd	<i>Maundy Thurs.</i> 7:00 PM
20	- Dick Kratzer & Mark Olson	
27	- Walter Ruppard & Art Bruce	

Don't Forget:

**Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday, April 13.
We are combining both services into
one service at 9:30 AM.**

APRIL 2014 | EVENT CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<p>Please Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Palm/Passion Sunday: Apr. 13, ONE SERVICE AT 9:30 AM • "Empty Bowls" Lunch at 11:30 AM 		<p>1 Outreach 7PM</p>	<p>2 AA 10 AM Lenten Prog. 10 AM Supper 5:30 PM Ev. Prayer 7 PM AA 7 PM Choir 7:45 PM</p>	<p>3 Recovery Bible Study 10 AM Thursday Group 10 AM</p>	<p>4 AA 10 AM</p>	<p>5 Fellowship Dinner 5:30 PM AA 7:30 PM</p>
<p>6 Fifth Sunday in Lent Family Sunday Holy Comm. 8 & 10:30 AM No Sunday School Lenten Program 12:15 PM</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 Church Chapters 6:30 PM</p>	<p>9 AA 10 AM Lenten Prog. 10 AM Supper 5:30 PM Ev. Prayer 7 PM AA 7 PM Choir 7:45 PM</p>	<p>10 Recovery Bible Study 10 AM Thursday Group 10 AM Thirty-One Meeting 6 PM</p>	<p>11 AA 10 AM</p>	<p>12 AA 7:30 PM</p>
<p>13 Palm/Passion Sunday Combined Service 9:30 AM "Empty Bowls" Lunch 11:30 AM</p>	<p>14 Cub Scouts 6 PM</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 AA 10 AM AA 7 PM</p>	<p>17 Maundy Thursday Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM Recovery Bible Study 10 AM Maundy Thurs. Serv. 7 PM Choir 8:15 PM</p>	<p>18 Good Friday AA 10 AM Good Friday Tenebrae 7 PM</p>	<p>19 Easter Egg Hunt 10 AM AA 7:30 PM</p>
<p>20 Easter Sunday Easter Services 8 & 10:30 AM Easter Breakfast 8:30 AM</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 Parish Admin. 6:30 PM Ch. Council 7:30 PM</p>	<p>23 AA 10 AM AA 7 PM Choir 7:30 PM</p>	<p>24 Recovery Bible Study 10 AM Thursday Group 10 AM</p>	<p>25 AA 10 AM Mom2Mom 12 PM</p>	<p>26 Mom2Mom 9 AM AA 7:30 PM</p>
<p>27 2nd Sunday of Easter Holy Comm. 8 & 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Holiday Fair Meeting 12:15 PM</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 AA 10 AM AA 7 PM Choir 7:30 PM</p>	<p>30</p>			

SAINT PAUL'S EPISTLE

Saint Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church
371 Wolcott Hill Road
Wethersfield, CT 06109
www.stpaulswethersfield.org

April 2014

Volume 72, Number 4

What's inside:

Pastor's Message: pg 1
"Easter: What are we celebrating?"

News & Notes pgs 2-3
Women of the ELCA
Foodshare's Walk Against Hunger
Easter Memorial Garden

etcetera... pgs 4-5
Giving Tree
Church Chapters
Spring Mom2Mom
Easter Egg Hunt

Members in Service pg 6

April Calendar pg 7

